

Hershey Memorial Hospital (Benjamin Hershey Memorial HABS No. IA-142
Convalescent Home)

1810 Mulberry Avenue
Muscatine
Muscatine County
Iowa

HABS
IOWA,
70-MUSCA,
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PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Building Survey
Rocky Mountain Region National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Denver, Colorado 80225

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Iowa	COUNTY Muscatine	TOWN OR VICINITY Muscatine
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Hershey Memorial Hospital		HABS NO. IA-142
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Benjamin Hershey Memorial Convalescent Home		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 1810 Mulberry Avenue		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) 1902 (per "Historic Architecture of Muscatine, Iowa")	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) Not known	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Mara Hershey erected this building to the memory of her father, Benjamin Hershey (1813-1893). The use of gable parapets, since altered, made this building an interesting example of the Neo-Jacobean style.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Neo-Jacobean		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick load-bearing walls, wood frame structure.		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) T-shaped, three stories plus basement, 84' x 85'.		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Originally, the gables had stepped profiles and double windows.		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) The once-open central stairway opposite the main entry is at the crossing of the T formed by the double-loaded corridors which are typical of each floor. Most of the original woodwork has been modified to accommodate function and fire		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES code changes. The stepped profiles of the gables have been straightened, and double windows replaced with single. The carriage entrance on the north side of the building was removed (1966). The rear portico was enclosed with aluminum siding.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Poor, much deterioration. The stability of the upper exterior walls is questionable. The brick veneer wall ties have deteriorated.		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Beside the hospital, there is also a nurses' dormitory, boiler house and the 1966 addition to the hospital. All are scheduled to be demolished for a HUD 202 project called the Hershey Home.		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Citizens advisory committee for the improvement of Muscatine, "Historic Architecture of Muscatine, Iowa," Environmental planning and research, Inc., 1977. Determined eligible for National Register.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Thomas R. Bankhead, Architect, Muscatine, Iowa Edited by Alison K. Hoagland, HABS Historian		DATE 1983 1985